

THE COLLEGIAN

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Friday, December 3, 1943

College for Veterans

An unprecedentedly stuffy editorial entitled "College Not For Dullards" appeared in a recent issue of The Athenaeum, student newspaper at West Virginia University. The subject under discussion was President Roosevelt's message to Congress suggesting an appropriation to provide for college training for one million veterans at the close of the war.

"The soldier who lacks the enterprise and ambition to look for a job will welcome the opportunity to lounge about on some college campus for a year at the government's expense. If the proper precautions are not taken in selecting the million veterans who are to participate in this educational program, we may expect to find our colleges and universities crowded with dullards who jumped at the chance to spend a year in college at the expense of the government."

This is a highly snobbish, pseudo-intellectual attack on a well-thought-out rehabilitation plan, and as such it deserves nothing but contempt. It might be conceivable to find such an indictment in a conservative, anti-spending, anti-administration, professional newspaper, but this attack on one of the very few practical and practicable post-war plans that has been proposed is doubly nauseating in view of the fact that it appears in a collegiate paper.

How can anyone be expected to support this bill to aid returning servicemen if their own generation turns against them in so undemocratic a manner?

To begin with, in order to be eligible for the program, a man must have completed one year of college training before entering the service. This prerequisite has been criticized because it will eliminate many men of college caliber, but it should provide huge comfort for the writer of the above editorial, who is so worried for fear that the hot polo will invade our sanctums of higher learning.

In the second place, applicants will undoubtedly be required to measure up to certain specifications set down by the various colleges and universities, in addition to recommendation and approval by the Army. When and if the plan is put to work it will probably be discovered that there are many more than a million men who are worthy of such government aid, and the requirements will probably be a good deal stiffer than college entrance requirements are now for regular students.

And finally, though this is a negative argument, how could any college student be presumptuous enough to fear the onrush of scores of "dullards" and to claim that college is not for them, in view of the high percentage of scholastic failures that roam our campuses, free and untrammelled, in the present? Or does it make it all right because these dullards are lounging at their fathers' expense and not at the government's?
L.H.L.



Old Mania...

By RITA M. BELFONTI

It's been a long time since Maniac left campus followed by hundreds of irate students and several juicy libel suits. Now, the obnoxious column is again making its long-awaited (?) appearance because of several bushels of requests (who are we trying to kid?).

Anyway, Maniac is back, and the column head set with such loving care will be seen in the paper every two weeks henceforth, come what may.

Romance, Inc. . . .

Despite the war and civilian manpower shortage, we have a few hardware exchanges to report. Sally Howard received Bob Barnes' ATO badge via the mail this week. . . . Thetaphialpha Ann Re came back from home with the Epsilon Phi Alpha pin of Howie Schimek, Brooklyn College student. . . . Carole Fink elstine, sdt. . . . Noel Udell, Phi Sigma Delta. . . . Dottie Funkhauser is sporting the Alpha Sigma Phi jewelry of Paul Phillips. . . . Nadie Prashker, Phi Ep and Rita Flagg and to

put the situation in reverse, Pat Tompkins, Theta Phi Alpha pledge, returned Bob Hibbard's Delta Sig pin last weekend.

Lt. Joe and Mrs. Peggy Maginnis, ex - Thetaphialpha prexy) Gavenonis journeyed to State College last weekend, taking in the campus for two days as part of their honeymoon. . . . Ditto for Lt. Chuck Woodring, DU, and wife, the former Helen Ferrari. . . . Flo Levinson, AEPH, will take the final plunge in January, 'tis said

Hither and Thither . . .

Kappa Rowene McCrae packed her little duffle bag and visited the DU she's pinned to (Agent 46 couldn't get his name) last weekend. . . . Betty Chestnutt, Alpha-ChiO, is wearing Sigmaphialpha Carl Gurlach's Navy ring. . . . Freddie Schutzman visited SDT Ferne Kanaster for the weekend (Ferne is now in the Infirmary). . . . Betty Moyer trekked to ma Phi jewelry of Paul Phillips Annapolis last weekend. Goldie Skraban to Lehigh to visit a cer-

Only Half A Job

Unless last-minute permission is granted to solicit in Navy-Marine Barracks, the indication is that Penn State students will be content to meet just half the \$2000 goal in the National War Fund Drive. Considering the amounts collected on other campuses of similar size, of which Pitt with a total of over \$17,000 is one, it is obvious that failure to meet so small a quota bespeaks a perverted sense of values on the part of the College student.

To date the response of organizations to the appeal has been most disappointing, with only nine declaring their intention to contribute. Certainly there are others on campus who can find a few dollars in their funds for which they have no more vital need.

In the case of sororities, the story is similar. At the time of writing, no house had announced a total of more than \$10. Admittedly, sorority women are called upon to contribute to innumerable drives and charities. They are required to buy war stamps each month from Mortar Board. Their living expenses are higher than those of independents. However, it would seem that if students in a co-operative could raise more than \$17, as did those in Nittany, women in Panhellenic houses could at least match that amount.

Concerning the necessity of supporting an organization such as the National War Fund, there can be no argument. It must meet the most fundamental needs of the human being by supplying food to those who without its aid would starve, by providing living quarters for those whose homes have been destroyed by war.

A contribution to the Fund means aid to the soldier through United Service Organizations, to the sailor through United Seamen's Service, to countless civilians in war torn areas through its war relief associations. It means that prisoners of war will be able to continue their education through the aid of the World Student Service Fund.

College students have been asked to sacrifice perhaps less than any other group to the national war effort. Service men enrolled in the various training programs have already given up a great deal, et, in comparison with their fellows who are now in Italy and in the Pacific, most of them admit that their lot is not bad.

Surely Penn State is not going to be satisfied with meeting half of a small goal. There is still time to contact house and dormitory solicitors, to vote an appropriation from organization funds, or to walk to the Old Main booth with a 50 cent or dollar contribution.

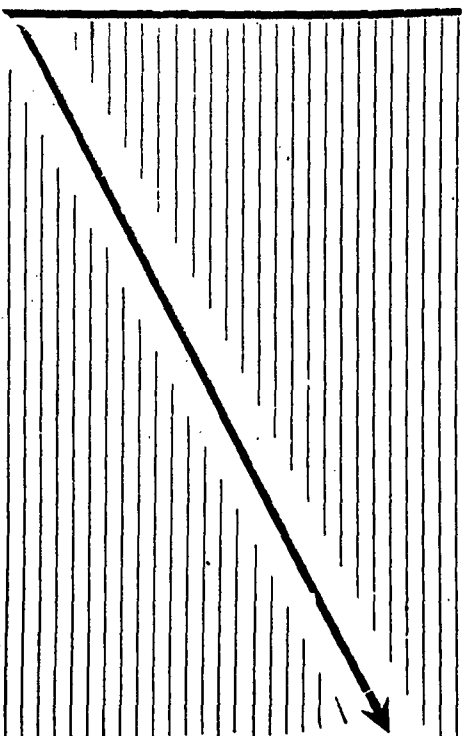
Not Wasted Effort

Because of its plan to bring back the All-College big-name band dance, Cabinet might be in for some criticism from those who feel that such pre-war entertainment cannot be justified in the present situation. Before the arrival of the service units, such an argument could have been backed by a lot of valid points. Undoubtedly, some of those points still deserve consideration.

Some might contend that the time, money, and effort necessary to put such an affair across could well be spent elsewhere. They might add that for a college to continue with its customary activities when energies of the nation are directed along more serious lines is not a credit to the student body.

However, it seems that at present these points are outweighed by the need of servicemen for weekend recreation. Much has already been done in the way of a social program by various student groups. Yet, one outstanding event, perhaps as a sample of peacetime Penn State, could surely not be interpreted to mean that the College is ignoring more vital problems.

ALWAYS . . .



The Corner
unusual



The Little Old Gentleman Wants To Help You Make Your Christmas Shopping Easy

Yes, it's time once more to go through that annual ordeal of Christmas shopping. Shopping need not be such a task . . . there's no need to rush from store to store at the last minute to pick up a few, much handled, leftover gifts. By starting your shopping early you can choose from a wider assortment of gifts, and you avoid that late rush. This year why not ease your mind of the worry over Christmas gifts by getting them off your mind early. You'll find your Christmas vacation much more pleasant and your friends and family really pleased with their gifts.

State College Stores Offer High Quality Gifts at Low Prices

In State College you'll find an ideal spot for shopping. All the stores are within easy walking distance of the center of town. You'll find that they carry the highest quality merchandise and that it will cost you no more than in the big city stores. All the merchants are willing to help you make the wisest choice in your selection of gifts.

BUY YOUR GIFTS IN STATE COLLEGE